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FLOOD VICTIMS, REFUGEES AIDED BY FUND

NEW YORK -- The southwestern United States had barely started to wring its socks out when an emergency grant from the Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief was on the way to help flood recovery efforts.

Within a day of receiving a request from the Rt. Rev. Joseph T. Heistand, Bishop of Arizona, the Fund sent \$5,000 to help provide shelter and replenish food banks for the Phoenix-area communities which were hit by a week-long series of rainstorms that swept the southwest.

As a result of the storms, three Arizona counties were declared federal disaster areas and state officials estimated flood damage at \$90,000,000.

The aid to Arizona was one of three emergency grants the Fund made during February.

Heavy rains and flooding in late 1979 were also the reason for a grant of \$7,000 to the archdeaconry of Granada in the Church of the Windward Islands. The rectory and Church of St. George were in danger of collapse following the loss of a retaining wall. In addition, slides had damaged and endangered homes on the slopes below the church.

The third grant was made to the Diocese of Olympia to provide emergency support for a large day-care center which is an integral part of the diocese's massive refugee ministry. Some 150 families are served through the Narnia Daycare Center and adult education programs supported by St. John's Church. The \$5,000 will provide interim support until expected state funding can be brought in.

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